CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

- 1. (Currently Amended) A network management connectivity verification framework comprising:
- a. a connectivity verification server performing—that performs unattended connectivity verification jobs; and

b.——a connectivity verification application for:

defining connectivity verification jobs,

configuring the connectivity verification server accordingly,

displaying connectivity verification results, and

specifying, by a user, at least one connectivity verification threshold for comparison to the connectivity verification results, and

displaying and highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm.

2. (Original) A connectivity verification framework claimed in claim 1, wherein the connectivity verification jobs are scheduled and the connectivity verification server performs scheduled connectivity verification.

3. (Currently Amended) A connectivity verification framework claimed in claim 1, wherein the connectivity verification application further <u>providing-provides</u> a display of connectivity verification results.

- 4. (Currently Amended) A connectivity verification framework claimed in claim 1, wherein the-results of each connectivity verification job may be compared against a connectivity profile, a deviation from the connectivity profile being used to raise an alarm.
- 5. (Original) A connectivity verification framework claimed in claim 3, wherein the connectivity verification results, including alarm information, are further used to generate a network map displaying selected connectivity verification results.
- 6. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a network connectivity verification test, comprising steps of:

a.——defining a connectivity verification job;

b.—configuring a connectivity verification server to perform the connectivity verification job;

e. displaying connectivity verification results; and

d.—specifying, by a user, at least one connectivity verification threshold for comparison to the connectivity verification results; and

displaying and highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test

claimed in claim 6, wherein defining the connectivity verification job further comprises steps of:

a. ----selecting via an NMS user interface, a pair of source and destination IP objects

between which connectivity is to be verified; and

specifying a connectivity verification schedule.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Previously Presented) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test

claimed in claim 6, wherein specifying the at least one connectivity verification threshold further

comprises specifying a threshold for at least one of round trip delay, jitter, and packet loss.

10. (Original) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test claimed in

claim 7, wherein a selected IP object include one of a router, IP interface, and IP address.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test

claimed in claim 7, wherein the pair of source and destination IP objects is selected selecting

from one of an IP link, an LSP, and a VPN.

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12. (Original) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test claimed in

claim 6, wherein defining the connectivity verification job further comprises a step of:

configuring a connectivity verification parameter including one of a number of ping commands

to issue, a ping packet size, ping data fill pattern, a time to wait for response, and a type of

service.

13. (Original) The method of creating a network connectivity verification test claimed in

claim 6, wherein defining the connectivity verification job further comprises a step of:

configuring a connectivity verification parameter including one of a number of traceroute

commands to issue, a traceroute packet size, traceroute packet data fill pattern, a time to wait for

response, and a type of service.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of performing a network connectivity verification in a

network management context comprising steps of:

a. performing scheduled connectivity verification;

b.—comparing a connectivity verification result with a connectivity verification

threshold, said connectivity verification threshold specified by a user; and

e. raising an alarm if the connectivity verification result has reached the

connectivity verification threshold: and

displaying and highlighting Layer-2 and Layer-3 objects affected by an alarm.

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15. (Currently Amended) The method of performing a network connectivity verification

claimed in claim 14, further comprising a step of: storing a connectivity verification job

on a computer readable medium for subsequent access and execution.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of performing a network connectivity verification

claimed in claim 14, further comprising a step of: highlighting highlighting at least one IP object

based on one of a connectivity verification job and a connectivity verification result.

17. (Original) The method of performing a network connectivity verification claimed in

claim 16, wherein a highlighted object is one of an OSI Layer 2 and OSI Layer 3 object.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of performing a network connectivity verification

claimed in claim 14, wherein performing scheduled connectivity verification the method-further

comprising comprises a step of periodically executing connectivity verification

tests.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of performing a network connectivity verification

claimed in claim 14, wherein performing scheduled connectivity verification the method-further

eomprising comprises a step of: issuing issuing at least one a one of a ping command and

traceroute command.

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20. (Currently Amended) The method of performing a network connectivity verification claimed in claim 14, further comprising a step of:—storing_storing_historical connectivity verification results on a computer readable medium for subsequent access.